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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/088,014	03/14/2002	Yoshihisa Yamada	1163-0396P	4932

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EXAMINER

SENF1, BEHROOZ M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/088,014	Applicant(s) YAMADA ET AL.	
	Examiner Behrooz Senfi	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12,13 and 15-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments filed 07/06/2006 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claims 1 – 11 have been canceled previously.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 12 –13, 15 - 18 and 20 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearlstein et al (US 5,568,200) in view of Boyce (US 6,012,091).

Regarding claim 12, Pearlstein '200 teaches, an image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus for receiving, storing and reconstructing a coded image signal (i.e. fig. 2) which includes intra-frame coded image signals and inter-frame coded image signals (fig. 2, element 14), fed from an image signal transmitter, for use in a communication environment (i.e. fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16 - 40) and coded signal storage unit to store coded image signals transmitted from the image signal transmitting apparatus (fig. 2, col. 5, lines 45 – 48).

Pearlstein '200 patent is silent in regards to explicit of, a storage and reconstruction control unit, which outputs an intra-frame request signal directing, in

accordance with a request for storage, the image signal transmitting apparatus to transmit intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded, and also outputs a storage start signal for carrying out a storage starting operation and the storage unit, extracts the information indicating the coding mode of the entirety of an image from the coded image signal transmitted and start storing the coded image signal when it is detected that the input coded image is intra-frame coded image signal and subsequently storing inter-frame coded image signal, thereby storing an initial intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded followed by inter-frame coded image signals.

Boyce '091 in the same field teaches, an image signal storage and reconstruction including control unit to output "an intra-frame request signal in accordance with request for storage (storage start signal) transmitting apparatus to transmit intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded, and also outputs a storage start signal for carrying out a storage starting operation (fig. 3, controller 100, storage 320, abstract, lines 17 – 20) and the storage unit, extracts the information indicating the coding mode of the entirety of an image from the coded image signal transmitted and start storing the coded image signal when it is detected that the input coded image is intra-frame coded image signal" (i.e. fig. 3, controller 100, intra-video encoder 330 and intra-codes storage 320 and 340, col. 9, lines 57 – 66) and subsequently storing inter-frame coded image signal, thereby storing an initial intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded followed by inter-frame coded image signals (col. 11, lines 37 – 40).

Art Unit: 2621

In view of the above, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the video encoder/decoder transmission system of Pearlstein in accordance with the teaching of Boyce by including control unit to output, an intra-frame request signal in accordance with request for storage/display to restore synchronization due to an error and/or loss of transmission, as suggested by Boyce (col. 1, lines 55 – 57 and col. 3, lines 37 – 39).

Regarding claim 13, combination of Pearlstein and Boyce teaches, the intra-frame request signal is repetitively output at a predetermined (regular) interval (Boyce, col. 1, lines 49 – 51 and col. 3, lines 36 – 37).

Regarding claims 15, 16 and 20, the limitations claimed are substantially similar to claims 12 and 14. Therefore grounds for rejecting claims 12 and 14 also applies here.

Regarding claims 17 and 21, combination of Pearlstein and Boyce teaches, wherein the storage and reconstruction control unit requests the transmission of the intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame encoded from the image signal transmitting apparatus (see claim 12 above) by temporarily closing a communication circuit used for transmitting the coded image signal (Boyce, fig. 3, intra storage 340, that only store the I frame), in other-words the storage is open for intra frame coded and is close for all other frame types.

Regarding claims 18 and 22, combination of Pearlstein and Boyce teaches, wherein the information indicating the coding mode is extracted from header information (Pearlstein, fig. 3).

Art Unit: 2621

4. Claims 19 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearlstein et al (US 5,568,200) in view of Boyce (US 6,012,091) and further in view of Isu et al (US 6,862,320).

Regarding claims 19 and 23, the combined Pearlstein and Boyce patent teaches, an image signal storage and reconstruction and header information in accordance with MPEG, as discussed earlier with respect to claims 12 and 18 in the above action.

Pearlstein is silent in regards to, header information associated with the MPEG-4 standard.

Isu '320 in the same field teaches, header information associated with the MPEG-4 standard (i.e. 5, VOL header 37 and VOP header analyzer 38 associated in MPEG-4).

In view of the above, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement and improve the coding efficiency of the video encoder/decoder transmission system of Pearlstein by using MPEG-4 coding scheme as suggested by Isu to carry out communication signal.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 14 is allowed for the same reason as set forth in the last office action, mailed 04/06/2006.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

Art Unit: 2621

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Behrooz Senfi** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7339**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Mehrdad Dastouri** can be reached on **(571) 272-7418**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300

Art Unit: 2621

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Va. 22314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relative to the status of the application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (571) 272-6000.

B. M. S.

9/13/06
TUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER